



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 -
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 3679
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/696,815 Confirmation No.: 1312
Applicant(s): Jayant D. Patel, et al.
Filed: October 30, 2003
Art Unit: 3679
Examiner: David Bochna
Title: A SLEEVE FOR JOINING AND SEALING CONDUITS

Docket No.: 038190/270421
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 15, 2005

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

This Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 is submitted in response to the final Official Action dated November 2, 2004. No new matter or issues are raised by this Amendment. Because the application is now in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. Alternatively, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment for purposes of narrowing the issues upon appeal.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.